

The Duties and Requirements of the Office of the State Advocate

The State Advocate is the Officer in charge of all the legal decisions that are made by the State Council. He need not be an attorney, but may be required to seek legal advice when necessary. When any Council has an internal conflict, or matter that requires outside intervention, or any clarification of Supreme, State or Council by-laws, it is the State Advocate who will rule on the matter.

Any resolution written and passed properly at the Council level is submitted to the State Advocate prior to the State Convention for his perusal. At the State Convention, the State Advocate is the Chairman of the Resolutions Committee. He presents to his committee all resolutions submitted to him, and he gives his opinion on the correctness and his opinion on the validity of the resolution. He then explains to the committee how the resolution will affect the State or Supreme Council. The committee then votes on whether to recommend acceptance or rejection of the resolution to the State Convention delegates. When it is time, the State Advocate reads each resolution to the Convention and states the opinion of his committee and calls for the vote of the Convention,

Since the State Officers work as a team, each Officer has other duties during the year. One such duty for the Advocate is the State New Council Development Director. He works closely with each District Deputy to identify the possibilities in each District for the formation of a Council at the parish. He then travels to that parish, and with the District Deputy meets with the Pastor and interested parishioners to discuss and educate everyone on the advantages of the Knights. He will work hand in hand with the District Deputy through the formation of the Council and election of Officers.

His other major duty is in conjunction with New Council Development, and that is the work of Roundtable Formation. Roundtables are the predecessors of new Councils. When a parish cannot sustain and grow a Council, a Roundtable is formed to work with a close local Council to work in that parish until enough men can be brought together to form

that Council. He works in this area with the District Deputy as well, helping to identify those possibilities.

As part of the Officer team, he is a liaison for the Convention Committee with the Warden. Those two Officers form the team to work with the Marriott Hotel personnel, and local Councils, to organize, plan, and put on the annual State Convention. He learns how to do this as Warden, and then serves as lead Officer when the Convention is held.

Lastly, the Advocate gets an opportunity to visit as many Councils as possible to join with his Brother Knights. These visits give the Councils as well as the Officer to share information and Brotherhood as often as possible.